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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - MARCH 1990

Total wage and salary jobs in Rhode Island climbed to 455,500 in March, primarily the result of gains in Trade, Service and Construction which more than offset decreases in Manufacturing and Government. Although the March job total represents a monthly increase of 1,500, it is 1,800 below the year ago level of 457,300.

Employment in the Service Producing sector rose 1,500 in the February-March period to 331,000 and was up 2,400 compared to the March 1989 figure. Seasonal hiring in Trade and Services resulted in monthly job gains of 900 and 700, respectively. Payroll levels in both Transportation/Public Utilities and Finance/Insurance/Real Estate rose 100 in March while overall Government employment was down 300 from last month.

Employment among the state's Goods Producing industries totalled 124,500 in March - unchanged from February but down 4,200 on an annual comparison. Contract Construction employment, at 17,900, reflected a seasonal increase of 300 over the month. The number of factory jobs declined by 300 from February to the March level of 106,600. In addition, the current manufacturing total is 3,800 below the comparable 1989 figure. Manufacturers of Durable Goods recorded a monthly downturn of 300 jobs while employment in Nondurable Goods was unchanged from last month. Textile employment, which posted the only monthly gain (+200), was overshadowed by job declines in Jewelry-Silverware (-200), Instruments, Food/Beverage, and Chemical Products (-100 each). Employment levels in the remaining industrial categories - eight in Durable Goods and six in Nondurable Goods - showed no change from February

The March work week averaged 39.7 hours - unchanged from last month but up 0.1 of an hour from a year ago. Production workers averaged $9.35 in March, an increase of 4 cents from February and a gain of 36 cents compared to March 1989.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate stood at 7.0 percent in March, up 0.3 of a percent from the previous month's estimate of 6.7 percent. The unadjusted unemployment rate increased from the February estimate of 7.3 percent to the March level of 8.2 percent. Correspondingly, the jobless total advanced to 42,800 in March, an increase of 4,900 from the month earlier figure of 37,900.

Nationally, the civilian unadjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.4 of a percent - from 5.8 percent in February to 5.4 percent in March. When adjusted to account for seasonal influences, the rate declined from 5.3 to 5.2 percent for the same period.

THE INTERSTATE JOB BANK AND YOU!

Have you ever tried to hire certain workers locally, only to find they are not available? Searching for workers outside the local area or in other states is costly and time consuming.

Now you can avail yourself of the world's largest employment service - the Interstate Job Bank operated by the Job Service nationwide. It may help you reduce or eliminate the expense of finding qualified workers for your firm.

Here's how the system works:

If qualified applicants cannot be found locally to fill your job orders, and you agree, your local Job Service will place your order into the Interstate Job Bank.

Your order will be included on a weekly updated list by the Interstate Job Bank and sent to over 2,000 Job Service offices throughout the country.

Applicants interested in your job offer will be screened by the trained staff of your local Job Service office after they submit their resumes. You select the people who interest you. Local Job Service staff will assist you in arranging interviews.

Interested in the Interstate Job Bank? For more information, contact the Rhode Island Job Service office nearest you or call 277-3724.

EMPLOYERS! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

When your employee files a claim for Temporary Disability Insurance benefits you play a critical part in the eligibility process. Following receipt of the application, the Department of Employment and Training sends you a request for wage and employment information.

This request - form TDI-4 - asks you to complete specific sections and return it within five working days to the Department.

The return of this form within the allotted time demonstrates a sense of fairness and consideration to your employee who is awaiting these much - needed benefits.

You also reduce or eliminate unnecessary phone calls and follow-up correspondence, and permit us to process the claim quickly.

And, finally, by returning the TDI-4 within five days, you protect your appeal rights while complying with Rhode Island law.

DET thanks the thousands of Rhode Island employers who respond in a prompt and efficient manner to requests for wage and employment information. So, too, do those many Rhode Island workers who received TDI benefits in the same manner.

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Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact RESEARCH AND STATISTICS at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

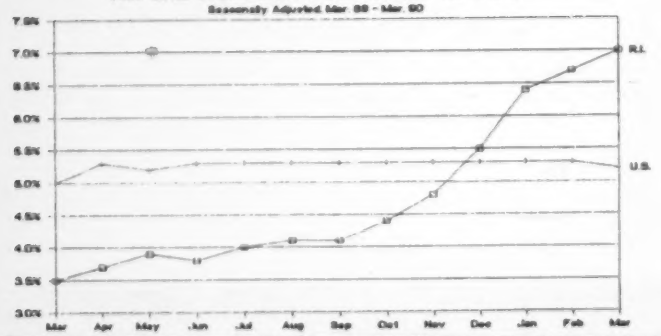
	March 1990	February* 1990	March* 1989	
Civilian Labor Force	523.3	522.1	518.7	
Resident Employment	480.6	484.2	497.8	
Unemployment	42.8	37.9	21.0	
Rate (Unadjusted)	8.2	7.3	4.0	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.0	6.7	3.5	*Revised

UNITED STATES

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	March 1990	February 1990	March 1989
Civilian Labor Force	123,789	123,442	122,223
Resident Employment	117,093	116,308	115,844
Unemployment	6,697	7,134	6,378
Rate (Unadjusted)	5.4	5.8	5.2
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	5.2	5.3	5.0

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands) Mar. 1990	Feb. 1990	Mar. 1989	NET CHANGE FROM Feb. 1990	Mar. 1989
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	455.5	454.0	457.3	+ 1500	- 1800
GOODS PRODUCING	124.5	124.5	128.7	- 0	- 4200
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	17.9	17.6	18.3	+ 300	- 400
MANUFACTURING	106.9	106.9	110.4	- 300	- 3800
SERVICE PRODUCING	331.0	329.5	328.6	+ 1500	+ 2400
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15.1	15.0	15.1	+ 100	0
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	105.7	104.8	105.3	+ 900	+ 400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	26.7	26.6	26.6	+ 100	+ 100
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	124.2	123.5	122.1	+ 700	+ 2100
GOVERNMENT	59.3	59.6	59.5	- 300	- 200

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

March 1990

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	106.6	371.20	39.7	9.35
DURABLE MFG.	72.3	368.68	39.6	9.31
LUMBER/FURNITURE	3.1	442.29	38.9	11.37
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.4	490.82	40.8	12.03
PRIMARY METALS	4.2	420.24	41.2	10.20
FABRICATED METALS	9.1	348.00	40.0	8.70
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.8	458.49	40.9	11.21
ELECTRICAL MACH.	6.6	351.62	39.2	8.97
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	8.2	499.09	41.8	11.94
INSTRUMENTS	7.2	402.90	42.1	9.57
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	20.7	288.04	38.0	7.58
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	6.0	301.02	36.8	8.18
NONDURABLE MFG.	34.3	376.80	40.0	9.42
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.8	351.25	39.6	8.87
TEXTILES	9.4	328.75	39.8	8.26
APPAREL	1.7	314.42	39.7	7.92
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.2	359.72	40.6	8.86
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	6.7	455.94	37.9	12.03
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	2.9	473.20	41.4	11.43
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.8	364.98	39.5	9.24
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.9	434.72	41.8	10.40
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.9	284.09	40.7	6.98

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.